(b) The State administration of West Bengal took necessary administrative measures, including imposition of Section 144 Cr. PC in the disturbed areas. The Ministry of Home Affairs is regularly interacting with the Government of West Bengal with a view to ensuring the maintenance of law and order and peace in the area. Towards this end, and in pursuance of a demand from the GJM, and the request of the Government of West Bengal, the Central Government has also agreed to a process of Tripartite Talks between the GJM, Government of west Bengal and the Central Government. The first round of Tripartite Talks was held on 8 September, 2008.

Foreign contributions to religious institutions

1003. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether religious institutions are allowed to receive foreign contributions; and

(b) if so, what was the extent of receipt of contributions, religion-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the data available and compiled for the year 2006-07, the total amount of foreign contributions utilized for religious purposes during the year was Rs. 683.22 crore. Religion-wise break-up is not maintained.

Eruption of naxalite problem in Tamil Nadu

1004. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the naxalite problem erupted in the recent past for the first time in Theni District, Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, what are all the extra steps taken to nip at the bud, so that it may not get aggravated later; and

(c) the measures taken by the Central Government instead of totally entrusting the issue to the State alone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) On 19th December, 2007, an exchange of fire between armed naxals and police took place in Theni district of Tamil Nadu. Though there was no casualty on either side, police recovered some arms and ammunitions.

(b) and (c) The State Government has been effectively dealing with naxal activities. The Central Government is supplementing the efforts and resources of State Governments by a variety of measures in the arena of security and development. These include assistance for capacity building of the State police and Intelligence agencies, sharing of intelligence and